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CIA Chief Casey Naples

Intelligence Cited as Foe Of Terrorism

> By MARTY BONVECHIO Staff Writer

The intelligence community is the first line of defense against terrorism, CIA Director William Casey told a packed house at the 4th Annual National Intelligence Symposium today in Naples.

Terrorism is a phenomenon that now touches every area of the world, said Casey, a surprise speaker at the symposium, which is sponsored by the Naples Daily News.

He said the United States must have intelligence agencies to deal with terrorism.

"NO COUNTRY has the capability to cover the world on its own," Casey said.

To counter terrorist activities, the United States must collaborate with other friendly nations he added.

Casey also addressed the spread of communism throughout the world. He noted that 10,000 Nicaraguans are fighting the Sovietbacked Sandinista army and the Soviets keep supplying more weapons to crush the rebel resistance.

"If they (the Sandinistas) succeed, a communist base will be consolidated on the American continent," Casey warned.

Casey said Nicaraguans have been sent to other countries, including Libya, for terrorist training, before returning to Latin America.

If the Sandinistas do consolidate a communist base in Central America, "We can expect Nicaragua will become the Beirut of the Western Hemishphere."

WITH THE communist takeover of countries, millions end up fleeing to the West — especially to the United States.

One-quarter of all Afghans fled



Staff photo by Eric Streehas CASEY SPEAKS TODAY ...at Naples Beach Club.

to Pakistan when the Soviets invaded their country, Casey said.

"Can anyone doubt that if communists complete their conquest that millions will leave Central America, and ultimately Mexico, to cross the border into the United States?" Casey asked.

He noted that San Antonio, Texas, is the 10th largest city in the nation now. If the Sandinistas win the battle, Casey warned, it won't be long before it is the largest city in the country.

Visits

Many experts have questioned the Contras' ability to win their battle with the Sandinistas, but Casey denied there are any plans to send American troops to help the Contras.

"That's a great misconception," he said.

"That country's resistance will cause the (Sandinista) government to collapse," he said.

There will be no American involvement, Casey added.

Casey ended his talk at the Symposium urging citizens to verbally support the CIA's work and to urge promising young people to consider joining the CIA.

"Intelligence is the first line of defense against terrorism and Soviet aggression," Casey said.

He added that intelligence is only as good as the agency recruits and the help it gets from its citizens.

Casey declined to address the question of why covert action was not used against Col. Moammar Khadafy in Libya, rather than the bombing that left many dead in that country.

THAT QUESTION, Casey said, should be addressed to the National Security Council and the president.

"There were many considerations," Casey said of the decision to use military force. He said he backed the decision.

Casey stressed that the United States did have the concrete proof that Khadafy was behind recent terrorism before the decision to attack was made.